



MAYDAY

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF M.E.T.A.

VOLUME 12 NO. 5

MAY 15, 1987

Talk about an extra long layover from race to race - boy it's getting boring here (unless you've travelled to Seattle, Portland or Riverside in the past little while). Dave Forster had a good time at IMSA at soon-to-be-closed Riverside in California. If you look closely at the ESPN/TSN telecast, lo and behold, Dave is there. Roger Salomon's trip to SIR was not as pleasant. Poor guy was stricken with food poisoning after eating a convenience store sandwich (ooo, beware of mystery meat...). Hope you are feeling lots better, Roger.

Some of our club spent a couple of days in the rain and cold, helping out the Westwood Karting Association. Nick, Barb, Brian and Lori had some chilly moments watching those tiny race machines screaming 'round the track. And scream they do - they get more aerodynamic and quicker every year. The Karting club was desperate for workers, too, as the people they had lined up to take care of working the corners didn't bother to show up at all. I imagine our help was much appreciated. As mentioned at our last meeting, we could put our new training program to good use by giving a session for the kart workers. Of course, we'd certainly be glad to assist at events when necessary, but it would be to their advantage to have their regular workers trained properly to handle incidents. Well, that's what we're here for - promoting safety in motorsport, any way we can.

It seems that tracks everywhere are having low entry problems, not just way up north in Canuck land. The races in Portland and Seattle had dismal entries and not enough workers. Westwood fared little better, but with a one-day event, there is always something going on and at least it looks like more! Practice, qualifying, a qualifying heat and a final heat race make for a fair bit of track time in one day. The most interesting race, as has come to be the case each event, was the Honda Michelin Challenge. With our Julie qualifying 6th on the grid and finishing in the top ten, rookie Kevin McGuire launching himself and his car (a la Georges Boucher) over the tire wall at the end of Turn 4, and a three car battle at the front consisting of Bill Yearwood, Tony Morris and Murray Craig, it was reasonably enjoyable. Of course, in the "different but equal" racing category, we expect reasonably enjoyable racing from the Player's Challenge Series. Some of these cars have already been out on practice nights, their drivers finding out their capabilities and shortcomings. At a recent Thursday night practice, Frank Allers and Tony Morris discovered a shortcoming and almost had a coming together which may have made both of them shorter. These cars, though modified somewhat for racing, still have a problem most people do not encounter on the street. It's called fuel starvation. In a corner, such as Turn One, blasting through there with half a tank of gas or less will cause the engine to cut out. Pleasant thought. We may not be able to blame bumper banging on this all the time, but it's something to keep an eye on. GM is aware of the problem and has issued some warnings - but people do forget to top up tanks. Could be interesting!

So, I guess it wasn't enough to embarrass a member of the executive at the last meeting into providing the article she promised. Suppose I'll have to embarrass her here, too. Barb Moewes, please stand up. Better yet, sit down and write a couple of sentences. We still want to hear your version of Driver Training. And of course, the next deadline is June 10th.



SPECIAL NOTICE

MAY 22, 23 & 24 SCCA Escort/NORPAC Double National - Seattle

MAY 23 Vintage 1-day event - Westwood
(Contact Nick Roche to work this event)

MAY 24 Indianapolis 500 (somebody's birthday - Ed.)

MAY 25 Monday night before the race - Call Dave Forster
between 6 and 10 p.m. at 420-0472 to confirm or
deny your attendance at the May 30/31 event.

MAY 27 M.E.T.A. Meeting - 8:00 p.m., Moody Park, Music Room

MAY 30 & 31 ICSCC CHAMPIONSHIP RACE - CASC REGIONAL - HONDA
MICHELIN CHALLENGE - WESTWOOD

MAY 30 & 31 SPI-Formula Atlantic/Trans Am - Sears Point, California

MAY 30 & 31 CART - Miller American 200 - Milwaukee, Wisconsin

JUNE 6 & 7 Rose Cup Race - Portland

JUNE 12, 13 & 14 CART - Budweiser/G.I. Joe's 200 - Portland

JUNE 13 & 14 CASC Regional - Calgary

JUNE 20 & 21 ICSCC (IRDC) Championship race - Seattle

JUNE 27 & 28 ICSCC (CSCC) Championship race - Portland

JULY 4 & 5 CASC REGIONAL - PLAYER'S CHALLENGE -
HONDA MICHELIN CHALLENGE - WESTWOOD

"WELL, FIRST THEY CAME INTO TURN 4 THREE ABREAST AND THEN..."

The editor has a request for turn marshals, communicators and flaggers alike. We all know there is a fair bit of bumping and grinding which will go on between Hondas and Camaros/Firebirds this year. We also know we will be asked to report blatant nose-thumbing of the rules of no hitting in the corners. Believe me, I won't ask you to keep quiet if Ross does it (not that he would) - that is not my purpose. For an article I intend to write, I would like you to watch for the sneaky outbraking manoeuvres, the psyching out of the competition, the out and out sheer talent involved in not only the winning of the race, but the races within the event. I need this info from a worker's point of view for the Honda Michelin and Player's Challenge series only. A few choice quotes would be great, but keep the expletives to a minimum, please! As we all read and hear race reports from the press or the drivers, it's time to give the people who see what's really happening a voice. "The View from the Crew" as it were. Please do not, however, interrupt your duties to be busily scribbling your words of wisdom. Write it down afterward if possible, or tell me at the beer bash. You never know, you might be famous someday! Thanks in advance for any and all help you can give me - and let me know if you want to get involved.



NOSTALGIA CORNER

While we contemplate spending next Saturday at Westwood working the Vintage Club's event, let us pause and remember some vintage racers. The following letters are from the famous and some would say, infamous persons who have been to Westwood for one reason or another. Mr. Moss is the Sports Car Club of B.C.'s only Honourary Member and is still active in Motorsport in Europe. Bill Brack, thrice Canadian Champion in Formula Atlantic, we have not heard from for some time and for all we know may still be active in Eastern Canada. Both of these letters reflect well on ourselves as workers and Westwood in general. They will both be added to the Historian's collection.

Bill Brack Racing Enterprises

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Toronto, Ontario, Canada
M5P 2H9
(416) 489-7618

Mr. Rodney Cockroft,
1250 Chilliwack Mountain Road,
RR #1,
Sardis, B.C.

September 18, 1975

Sunday
May 16, 1965

Dear Rodney,

I am naturally extremely happy to be the Canadian champion for the third time, but one of the most treasured awards is the Wayne Kelly Award of which I was surprised and honoured to receive.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone responsible and to congratulate all of your people for such a tremendous job of looking after us drivers on the race track.

As you may already be aware, this series is presently looked upon as the best form of professional racing by motorsport enthusiasts all around the world. No small part of this professionalism comes from the contribution of your people at the circuit.

Keep up the good work.

Yours sincerely,



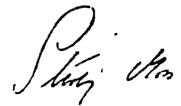
Bill Brack

Mr. Art Lightfoot,
1225 East 19th Avenue,
Vancouver 10, B.C.

Dear Mr. Lightfoot,

Just a note to thank you sincerely for helping make me feel so welcome in Vancouver during Player's Pacific Week.

I'll never forget your beautiful British Columbia.



Stirling Moss



Canadian Driving Champion 1973, 1974, 1975

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